

P. ENT COOPERATION TREA

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NOTIFICATION OF ELECTION

(PCT Rule 61.2)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark
Office
Box PCT
Washington, D.C.20231
ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE

in its capacity as elected Office

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 03 October 2000 (03.10.00)	
International application No. PCT/GB00/00627	Applicant's or agent's file reference RRS/7083INT
International filing date (day/month/year) 23 February 2000 (23.02.00)	Priority date (day/month/year) 25 February 1999 (25.02.99)
Applicant YIASEMIDES, George, Paul et al	

1. The designated Office is hereby notified of its election made:

☒ in the demand filed with the International Preliminary Examining Authority on:
31 August 2000 (31.08.00)

☐ in a notice effecting later election filed with the International Bureau on:

2. The election ☒ was
☐ was not

made before the expiration of 19 months from the priority date or, where Rule 32 applies, within the time limit under Rule 32.2(b).

<p>The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland</p> <p>Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35</p>	<p>Authorized officer Olivia TEFY</p> <p>Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38</p>
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference RRS/7083INT	FOR FURTHER ACTION see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.	
International application No. PCT/GB 00/ 00627	International filing date (day/month/year) 23/02/2000	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 25/02/1999
Applicant BRITISH CERAMIC RESEARCH LIMITED et al.		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 5 sheets.

☒ It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

- a. With regard to the **language**, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ the international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

- b. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international search was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing :

☐ contained in the international application in written form.

☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.

☐ the statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.

☐ the statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished

2. ☐ **Certain claims were found unsearchable** (See Box I).

3. ☒ **Unity of Invention is lacking** (see Box II).

4. With regard to the **title**,

☐ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☒ the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

MOULDS AND METHOD OF MAKING THE SAME

5. With regard to the **abstract**,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. The figure of the **drawings** to be published with the abstract is Figure No.

☒ as suggested by the applicant.

☐ because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

☐ because this figure better characterizes the invention.

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☐ None of the figures.

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 B29C33/38 B29C33/04

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 B29C

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 0 711 615 A (BETZ GERHARD DR) 15 May 1996 (1996-05-15)	1-20, 23-25, 29-31, 35-43, 46, 47, 52-56
Y	the whole document	32-34, 65-90
P, Y	WO 99 39889 A (EXPRESS TOOL INC) 12 August 1999 (1999-08-12) the whole document	32-34
Y	US 3 811 175 A (GARNER P ET AL) 21 May 1974 (1974-05-21) the whole document	65-90
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☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

8 June 2000

Date of mailing of the international search report

15/06/2000

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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Authorized officer

Mathey, X

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	DE 195 33 045 A (BETZ GERHARD DR ING) 13 March 1997 (1997-03-13) the whole document	1-20, 23-25, 29-31, 35-43, 46,47, 52,53
X	US 4 793 953 A (MAUS STEVEN M) 27 December 1988 (1988-12-27) the whole document	1-11,13, 15-18, 20,21, 23-25, 29-31, 35,46 65-84
A	US 5 189 781 A (WEISS LEE E ET AL) 2 March 1993 (1993-03-02) the whole document	60-64
Y	EP 0 742 094 A (ASAHI CHEMICAL IND) 13 November 1996 (1996-11-13) column 4, line 29 - line 51	57-59
Y	column 5, line 12 - line 17	1-6, 8-11, 13-20, 23-25, 29-37, 44-47 12,48, 57-59 65-90
Y	WO 97 16274 A (MASSACHUSETTS INST TECHNOLOGY) 9 May 1997 (1997-05-09) page 5, paragraph 1	12,48
X	US 5 489 410 A (BAUMGARTNER CHARLES E ET AL) 6 February 1996 (1996-02-06) the whole document	1,35
A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 016, no. 165 (M-1238), 21 April 1992 (1992-04-21) & JP 04 013489 A (ASAHI CHEM IND CO LTD), 17 January 1992 (1992-01-17) abstract; figures	2-34, 36-59, 65-90
A		1-11, 15-18, 38-45, 65,73-82

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/GB 00/00627

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
EP 0711615	A	15-05-1996	DE 4439984 C	21-03-1996
WO 9939889	A	12-08-1999	AU 2496699 A	23-08-1999
US 3811175	A	21-05-1974	NONE	
DE 19533045	A	13-03-1997	NONE	
US 4793953	A	27-12-1988	NONE	
US 5189781	A	02-03-1993	NONE	
EP 0742094	A	13-11-1996	CN 1139401 A	01-01-1997
			WO 9520478 A	03-08-1995
WO 9716274	A	09-05-1997	US 5775402 A	07-07-1998
			EP 0862507 A	09-09-1998
			JP 11515058 T	21-12-1999
			US 5814161 A	29-09-1998
US 5489410	A	06-02-1996	US 5388803 A	14-02-1995
			EP 0639438 A	22-02-1995
			JP 7148743 A	13-06-1995
JP 04013489	A	17-01-1992	NONE	

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

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Applicant's or agent's file reference RRS/7083INT	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/GB00/00627	International filing date (day/month/year) 23/02/2000	Priority date (day/month/year) 25/02/1999
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC B29C33/38		
Applicant BRITISH CERAMIC RESEARCH LIMITED et al.		

- This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
- This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.
 - ☐ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e. sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of sheets.

- This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I ☒ Basis of the report
- II ☐ Priority
- III ☐ Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV ☐ Lack of unity of invention
- V ☒ Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI ☐ Certain documents cited
- VII ☒ Certain defects in the international application
- VIII ☒ Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 31/08/2000	Date of completion of this report 15.05.2001
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:  European Patent Office D-80298 Munich Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 epmu d Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465	Authorized officer De Waard, W Telephone No. +49 89 2399 2918 

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. PCT/GB00/00627

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **elements** of the international application (*Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17)*):

Description, pages:

1-12 as originally filed

Claims, No.:

1-90 as originally filed

Drawings, sheets:

1/6-6/6 as originally filed

2. With regard to the **language**, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language: , which is:

- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of the international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- ☐ contained in the international application in written form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages:
- ☐ the claims, Nos.:

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. PCT/GB00/00627

☐ the drawings, sheets:

5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)):

(Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.)

6. Additional observations, if necessary:

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims
	No: Claims 1, 4, 35, 36, 38, 48, 65, 84, 85
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims
	No: Claims 2, 3, 5-34, 37, 39-47, 49-64, 66-83, 86-90
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims 1-90
	No: Claims

2. Citations and explanations
see separate sheet

VII. Certain defects in the international application

The following defects in the form or contents of the international application have been noted:
see separate sheet

VIII. Certain observations on the international application

The following observations on the clarity of the claims, description, and drawings or on the question whether the claims are fully supported by the description, are made:
see separate sheet

Re Item V

Reasoned statement under Rule 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. The nearest prior art document is considered to be EP-A-0 711 615 (hereinafter referred to as D1).

D1 discloses a mould and a method of making same which fulfil the requirements of the independent claims of the application (compare D1, e.g. the abstract and claim 2).

Therefore, the subject matter of these claims is not novel.

2. The features additionally claimed in dependent claims 4, 36, 38, 48 and 85 are also already known from D1, compare e.g. D1, claim 5; col. 4, lines 43-56; and col. 4, lines 51-53.

The features additionally specified in the other dependent claims are merely straightforward possibilities from which the skilled person would select, in accordance with circumstances, without the exercise of inventive skill, in order to solve the problem posed.

Re Item VII

Certain defects in the international application

1. Contrary to the requirements of Rule 5.1(a)(ii) PCT, the relevant background art disclosed in the document D1 is not mentioned in the description, nor is this document identified therein.
2. The independent claims are not in the two-part form in accordance with Rule 6.3(b) PCT, which in the present case would be appropriate, with those features known in combination from D1 being placed in the preamble (Rule 6.3(b)(I) PCT) and with the remaining features being included in the characterising part (Rule 6.3(b)(ii) PCT).

Re Item VIII

Certain observations on the international application

1. The International Preliminary Examining Authority considers the requirement of

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET**

International application No. PCT/GB00/00627

unity of invention to be fulfilled (Rules 13.1, 13.2 PCT).

2. Claims 35 and 85 are not clear. The requirements specified in the PCT Guidelines Chapter III, 4.4 are not met.
3. Claim 65 includes all the features specified in claim 1. Therefore, claim 65 should be reformulated as a dependent claim (Rule 6.4 PCT).
4. The scope of claims 61 and 62 is already defined in claim 57. Therefore, the claims as a whole lack conciseness (Rule 6 PCT).